GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:999
ANSWERED ON:02.03.2016
Violation of Licensing Norms
Sigriwal Shri Janardan Singh

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has taken note that some of the mobile service providers have reportedly violated the licensing norms in providing 3G services;

(b) if so, the details of such violations reported along with the action taken against the erring service providers during each of the last three years and the current year, company-wise;

(c) whether the service providers have complied with the directions issued by the Government against such violations;

(d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the steps taken by the Government to ensure compliance of licensing norms by the mobile service providers?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
(SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD)

(a) The issue relating to intra-circle roaming arrangements amongst some of the service providers to provide 3G services in Service Areas in spite of not having won the spectrum through auction conducted by the Department of telecommunications has been observed by the Government.

(b) After observing the said violations by the licensees, the Government issued instructions to the concerned licensees on 23rd December, 2011 to immediately stop provision of 3G services in this manner.

(c) to (e) The service providers submitted the Petition No. 518 to 522 of 2011 in
Telecom Disputes Settlement & Appellate Tribunal (TDSAT) against the instructions of the Department of Telecommunications. Consequently, TDSAT vide its judgement dated 29th April, 2014 observed that the intra-circle roaming arrangements does not violate any provision of the UAS license held and it is not open for the Government to prohibit the petitioners from carrying out the services in terms of the agreements.

The Department of Telecommunications has challenged the judgement passed by TDSAT vide Civil Appeal No. 10901-10917 in the Supreme Court. The matter is sub judice.

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